

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
 POULTRY PROGRAMS, MARKET NEWS BRANCH
 60 FORSYTH STREET, SW SUITE 6M80
 ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

OFFICE: 404-562-5850 FAX: 404-562-5875 JOHNNY FREEMAN: 404-562-5870
 INTERNET: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/marketnews.htm> RECORDING: 404-562-5856

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**ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
 FOR WEEK ENDING 21-Dec-02 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

	CURRENT WEEK 12/29/02	PREVIOUS WEEK 12/21/02
BRO-FRY	111,777	158,055
LT HENS	948	1,942
HVY HENS	757	1,491

**U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA
 WEEK ENDING 21-Dec-02 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
	NOT RELEASED DUE TO HOLIDAYS		
HEAD	-	-	-
LAST WEEK	168	0	168
SAME WK YR AGO	-	-	-
TO DATE 2002	-	-	-
TO DATE 2001	-	-	-

® Revised

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, POULTRY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

TOTAL U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN THE U.S. AND CANADA

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
	NOT RELEASED DUE TO HOLIDAYS		
HEAD	-	-	-
LAST WEEK	1,997	1,342	3,339
SAME WK YR AGO	-	-	-
TO DATE 2002	-	-	-
TO DATE 2001	-	-	-

**LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
 WEEK ENDING 21-Dec-02 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
HEAD	152,854 (A)	1,782	1,442	3,224
AVG WT	5.07	3.37	7.60	5.26
LAST WEEK	154,894	1,829	1,342	3,171
SAME WEEK YR AGO	159,450	1,942	1,419	3,361
AVG WT	4.95	3.23	7.78	5.15
TO-DATE/2002	7,878,649	88,473	72,137	160,610
TO-DATE/2001	7,834,427	90,978	70,660	161,638

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 144.4 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 154.7 million head or 10.3 million head more than or 107 percent of estimated fryers available.

(R) Revised

**YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION,
CLASSIFIED BY LIVE WEIGHT, WEEK ENDING December 14, 2002**

	(A) FAST FOOD/FOOD SERVICE 4.20 LBS & DOWN	(B) RETAIL 4.21-5.25 LBS	(C) DEBONING 5.26 LBS & UP
	-----THOUSANDS-----		
HEAD	18,360	17,535	36,372
AVG WEIGHT	3.70	4.74	6.26
% OF TOTAL /1	25%	24%	50%
COMPARISONS			
LAST WEEK	22,187	19,429	39,713
AVG WEIGHT	3.81	4.71	6.14
% OF TOTAL /1	27%	24%	49%
SAME WEEK, YR AGO /2	16,831	18,672	25,932
AVG WEIGHT	3.55	4.58	6.18
% OF TOTAL /1	27%	30%	42%
TO DATE/2002	1,269,842	1,117,090	2,052,611
TO DATE/2001	1,525,603	1,332,768	2,146,858

/1 MAY NOT TOTAL TO 100% DUE TO ROUNDING

/2 COMPARABLE WEEK

- (A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include Cornish hens.
- (B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.
- (C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

**LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED WEEK ENDING 21-Dec-02
(THOUSAND HEAD)**

	YOUNG (B) HENS	TOMS	YOUNG BREEDERS	OLD BREEDERS	TOTAL
HEAD	1,827	2,903	38	1	4,769
AVG WT	15.21	37.65	26.87	28.23	28.96
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS					
LAST WEEK	2,089	2,780	51	20	4,940
SAME WEEK YR AGO	1,857	2,819	54	12	4,742
AVG WT	17.01	34.52	24.74	31.08	27.54
TO-DATE/2002	95,103	141,258	2,720	661	239,742
TO-DATE/2001	103,254	140,976	2,344	582	247,156

SOURCE: USDA/AMS POULTRY PROGRAMS, MARKET NEWS BRANCH.
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL (404) 562-5850.